THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The enquiry report is under examination. Thereafter, the information will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scrapping of Railway projects

424. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plan has been drawn up to scrap a large number of Railway projects which were approved over ten years ago but have not yet been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the investments made in these specific projects;

(c) whether it is fact that many of these projects were formulated without detailed project reports, pre-project activities or a proper tie-up of financial resources; and

(d) if so, the details of such projects and the compulsions/reasons for undertaking them without following the established sound project management practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Disaster Management infrastructure in Railways

425. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fresh review has been undertaken to assess the disaster management infrastructure and its effectiveness on the Indian Railways, especially in the wake of the recent Rajdhani Express accident;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the additional relief and emergency facilities proposed to be created in the disaster management units in the different zones; and

(c) the details of the similar disaster management machinery working in other countries like Britain, USA etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) In the wake of Rajdhani Accident, a Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Railways to review the Disaster management System on Indian Railways and give recommendations for strengthening and streamlining the same.

(c) In the unfortunate event of a Railway accident, relief and rescue work is generally not spearheaded by the Railway organization, but by the Civil authorities, as done in road accidents/other accidents, in many Railway systems in the world. It is understood that the role of the Railways in these countries is restricted to clearing the track and restoring traffic after the rescue work is over. However, clear details regarding UK and USA are not readily available.

Encroachment of railway land in Andhra Pradesh

426. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large portions of the railway land have been encroached upon in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Vijayawada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Some area of railway land is under encroachment. However, State-wise details in this regard is not maintained. The details regarding encroachment in the city of Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Vijayawada are given below:—

City	No. of encroachments	Area in Hec.
Hyderabad	663	3.787
Secunderabad	268	1.299
Vijayawada	746	1.911